

March 5, 2008 Binghamton, NY



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OA School District Improvements



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By Erik Burling
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The Owego-Apalachin School district wants to revamp teaching in classrooms and energy output in schools.

The 13 million dollar project comes with no additional tax.

A new roof for the high school, new lights for the football field, and refurbished locker rooms.

Owego-Apalachin Superintendent Dr. Bill Russell says those are just a few of the planned improvements.

Owego Free Academy, along with Owego, and Apalachin elementary were built in the mid 60's and early 70's.

"They need work. They need the new roofs, new windows, they need new parking lots, they need new sidewalks, they need energy management systems," says OA Superintendent Dr. Bill Russell.

New systems that would conserve energy, and money.

"And we are also going to be making every single classroom in the district a smart classroom so that we can use all the temporary digital technologym," says Russell.

Laptops, projectors, and the internet will converge.

The result...

A whole bunch of technology coming from one overhead projector to connect students and teachers in the classroom.

All this at no additional cost to taxpayers.

"The combination of the state's excel funding, state building aid that comes to us at about 83 cents on every dollar we spend, and money that we have in our capital reserve means that we will have no new taxes to support the project," says Russell.

But, the school district will need the support of voters to make the 13.5 million dollar project possible.

The vote is set for Tuesday March 25th.

It will be held in the Owego and Apalachin Elementary schools from Noon to 9 pm.

If passed, construction would begin in 2009.



Storm Tracker Weather



35 °F

Current Temp

Light Rain

Wind : From the West at 14 MPH
 Humidity : 96 %
 Pressure : 29.47" (999.4 mb)

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